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January 11, 2007

Long-Range Planning Subcommittee  
Renewable Resources Grant and Loan Program  
State Capitol  
Helena, MT 59620-1601

**RECEIVED**

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**D.N.R.C.**

Dear Long Range Planning Subcommittee:

You will soon be holding two legislative hearings to make a determination regarding Meagher County Conservation District's applications for funding for the Hydrologic Investigation of the Smith River Watershed. These legislative hearings, one for the Renewable Resource Grant, will be held on January 23<sup>rd</sup> and the other, a Reclamation and Development Grant, to be held on January 25<sup>th</sup>.

Our project is extremely important to the conservation district and to the Smith River Watershed and we are prepared to appear before the committee on both of those days, if necessary. However, due to a rule prohibiting an applicant from receiving two of these legislative grants, our project has not been recommended for funding of the Renewable Resource Grant. Our project was highly ranked, by DNRC, for both grant applications and also scored within the recommended funding level for the Reclamation and Development Grant, therefore, it was recommended for RDG funding.

As we were not recommended for funding of the Renewable Resource Grant, we will not be in attendance at that hearing. But we would like to ask that you please keep us in mind for the Renewable Resource Grant as well, if there is available funding.

We will appear before your committee on January 25<sup>th</sup>, regarding the Reclamation and Development Grant, and appreciate the opportunity to discuss our project. I'm sure you'll be happy not to have to listen to our group twice!

Please let us know if you have any concerns. We look forward to seeing you on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

Sincerely,

Janet Zieg, Chair